GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3893
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2007
LAND CONSERVATION
Thummar Shri Virjibhai

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of schemes being run regarding land conservation in the country, State-wise;

(b) the details of funds allocated, released and utilized for land conservation during each of the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the targets fixed and success achieved by the Government under land conservation during each of the last three years?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a) to (c): Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture is implementing four Watershed Development Programmes/Schemes, namely, National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPRA), Soil Conservation for Enhancing Productivity of Degraded lands in the Catchments of River Valley Project & Flood Prone River (RVP & FPR), Reclamation of Alkali Soils (RAS) and Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSCA) for development of degraded lands including soil & water conservation. The State − wise details of target and achievement, the fund allocated and utilized during each of last three years (2004-07) are given in Annexure- I (A to D).

In addition to these, Ministry of Rural Development is also implementing three area development programmes, namely, Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP), Desert Development Project (DDP) and Integrated Wasteland Development Project (IWDP) which also have a component of land conservation. During tenth plan an area of 183.14 lakh ha. was covered against the target of 181.00 lakh ha under these three programmes. The State-wise details of release of fund during each of last three years (2004-07) are given in Annexure −II (A to C).

These Watershed Development Programmes have been found effective in conservation of degraded lands and sustaining agricultural production, besides helping in in-situ moisture conservation and ground water recharge in the watershed areas.